

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES DUE TO LACK OF A QUORUM

10x10 Blue Ribbon Affordable Housing Meeting

Thursday, January 10, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

Fresno City Hall, 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 3054

Committee Members Present: Keith Bergthold, City of Fresno, (Chair)
Cynthia Sterling, Fresno City Council District 3 (Co-Chair)
Michael Sigala, City of Fresno
Rev. Sharon Stanley, FIRM
Jess Negrete, Central California Legal Services
Sara Hedgpeth-Harris, League of Woman Voters
Veda Stamps, The Ramsay Group

Others Present: Bonnie Rusko, CIL
Jose Luis Barraza, CIL
Marilyn Jost, Housing Partnership for the Disabled
Charlotte Hylton, Deputy City Attorney
David Hale, City Attorney
David Mendoza, CHC
Bill Ross, City of Fresno
Randy Calvert, City of Fresno
Rollie Smith, HUD
Jeff Schragger
Michael Kirn, Redevelopment Agency

Members Absent Rev. Paul Werfelmann
Dan Fitzpatrick, Lantana Investment, LLC
Dennis Woods, United Security Bank

A. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:11 p.m. by Keith Bergthold

B. Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves

C. Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes was moved to the end of the meeting, at which time, due to lack of a quorum, minutes were not approved.

D. Local Foreclosures and Strategies for Responding:

Michael Sigala stated the City with the Housing Resource Center is trying to formulate a strategy to help with the foreclosure crisis in Fresno County. There is a proposal sponsored by the Housing Resource Center to provide financial assistance to those residents in the foreclosure process. Michael Sigala stated that the proposal did not pass the Housing and Community Development Commission, however this proposal needs discussion by the 10 x 10. Sara Hedgpeth-Harris made a motion to approve that the Housing Resource Center receive funding in the amount of \$68,000 to help residents through the foreclosure process. Veda Stamps seconded the motion. Motion passed.

E. Universal Design Policy Discussion.

Council Member Cynthia Sterling stated that there are members of the community that are concerned with Universal Design Policy. David Hale, City Attorney is present to discuss the difference between an ordinance and a resolution. David Hale stated that the office drafted a resolution instead of an ordinance for several reasons. One reason that a resolution was drafted was to streamline the municipal code. A resolution is less formal. For example, a resolution can be read and adopted in the same city council meeting. An ordinance is a legislative act. Functionally, a resolution and an ordinance have the same enforceability. They both require approval from City Council. There is a level of formality required by a resolution. A major distinction between the two is that ordinances are legislative acts, whereas resolutions are administrative acts. Bonnie Rusko said she is concerned because an ordinance is a law and a resolution is not. Jose Barraza said that all universal design policies in California are ordinances. Jose Barraza stated that the Universal Design Committee told the public that an ordinance was the intent not a resolution. Jose Barraza said that if a resolution were drafted, then the committee would have to go back to the community to get approval. Jose Barraza said that a law is permanent. A resolution can be changed. David Hale stated fee structures change every year, and the public is informed of these changes. David Hale said that whatever department is in charge of implementation would have the responsibility of informing and enforcing the resolution. The City Attorney and Clerk would have access to that resolution. Michael Kirn stated that an ordinance is for public display whereas as resolution is not. David Hale stated that analysis is not necessarily true. For example, the fee schedule changes every year. David Hale stated that the City Attorney was told by City Council to codify the code. The resolution would not be able to be changed or modified without City Council approval. A resolution can be adopted by a quorum. Sara Hedgpeth-Harris stated that the differences between an ordinance and a resolution appear to be significant. Sara Hedgpeth-Harris stated the community may want the formality that an ordinance has for Universal Design. If jurisdictions are adopting an ordinance, then why can't Fresno? David Hale stated that because we are not adopting a model ordinance from the state, this policy is not a model ordinance. Sara Hedgpeth-Harris said that committee recommended an ordinance. Bonnie Rusko stated that perhaps the other jurisdictions went to ordinance because that is what was needed. Council Member Sterling asked if there is an ordinance would there have to be two readings to City Council. David Hale stated yes. David Hale said that adoption of a resolution can be approved by a majority of a quorum. Sarah Hedgpeth-Harris stated that the 10 x 10 Committee should put forth a recommendation. Jose Barraza stated that the Universal Design Committee discussed the policy as an ordinance to city council members. Veda Stamps asked if its done as an ordinance, can you bring it back as a resolution. David Hale said yes. Marilyn Jost asked if a resolution is passed and a builder wants to do two out of the five recommendations, can they go to City Council to get it changed. David Hale said that if an organization came through to repeal the resolution and they had enough City Council votes, then they could repeal or modify the resolution. Sara Hedgpeth Harris stated that the 10 x 10 Committee recommended to City Council that Universal Design policy be adopted by ordinance. Sara Hedgpeth-Harris made a motion to continue that recommendation. Sharon Stanley seconded the motion. Sharon Stanley stated that Universal Design policy is very important to members of our community. Motion passed.

F. Housing Trust Fund:

Michael Sigala explained that there needs to be more money set aside for a consultant to build community awareness to increase more funding opportunity. Michael Sigala said that \$30,000 for the strategic plan and \$125,000 for establishing a coalition and implementation. Council Member Sterling stated that specific dollar amounts should not be set aside from the Housing Trust Fund until the policy/guidelines are intact. A \$125,000 set aside would have to be approved by City Council. Sara Hedgpeth-Harris said that we need to identify an ongoing stream of funding for the trust fund. The Finance subcommittee will discuss what strategic plan should be implemented and a recommendation will be presented at the next meeting.

G. Public Announcements:

Jose Barazza stated that the Homeless Task force is gathering people to serve on the committee, and he wanted to know if the committee had any suggestion on who should serve on the task force.

Meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.